AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the title of the invention found on top of pages 1 and 26 of the application with the following:

-- APPARATUS ~~AND METHOD~~ FOR PROVIDING A HINGED SLIDING DOOR MECHANISM --

Please replace the paragraph of the specification starting on page 1, line 7 of the application with the following:

-- This application is also related to co-pending United States patent application serial number [[_____]] 10/798733, attorney docket number DP-309970, filed contemporaneously with the present application, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference thereto.--

Please replace the paragraph of the specification under the heading "Brief Description of the Drawings" starting on page 5, line 17 of the application with the following:

-- Figure 4 is a top plan view of an exemplary embodiment of the present invention corresponding to ~~an open~~ a closed door position; --

Please replace the paragraph of the specification under the heading "Brief Description of the Drawings" starting on page 5, line 19 of the application with the following:

-- Figure 5 is a top plan view of an exemplary embodiment of the present invention corresponding to ~~a closed~~ an open door position; --

Please replace the paragraph of the specification starting on page 8, line 20 of the application with the following:

-- It is, of course, understood that the hinge assembly 28 may comprise a single unit with the pivotal movement being facilitated by the securement of one end to the door and the other end to the track. In this embodiment, the second hinge portion would be a portion of the sliding door or integrally formed with the sliding door. Hinge assembly 28 further comprises a cable attachment portion 35 (Figure 4) that is secured to the sliding door and also provides a means for

securing second hinge portion [[34]] 36 to the door as well as a point of securement for a front cable of the system.--

Please replace the paragraph of the specification starting on page 13, line 8 of the application with the following:

-- An exemplary embodiment attaches the front cable directly to the door by means of guiding the cable around a surface defined by a guide member 74 of hinge assembly 28. In one exemplary embodiment guide member 74 is mounted or integrally formed to protrude from a surface of first hinge portion 32. For example, in one non-limiting exemplary embodiment pinch portion 32 and guide member 74 may be formed from a stamped steel member or alternatively a casting process. Of course, other manufacturing processes are considered to be within the scope of the present invention. As illustrated, guide member 74 provides a curved surface such that a portion of cable 39 makes contact with a surface of guide member 74 as the door is in an open position (Figure 5). In addition, the configuration and placement of guide member 74 keeps cable 39 taught in order to provide tension upon both ~~cable as~~ cables 38 and 39 as hinge assembly 28 travels in the non-curved portion or slightly curved portion of guide track 26. Accordingly, no slacking of the cable is felt as the system travels through an open position to a closed position. --

Please replace the paragraph of the specification starting on page 14, line 13 of the application with the following:

-- As illustrated in Figure 4, the position of the door and accordingly the first hinge portion with respect to the second hinge portion as well as the location of pulley 48 will cause a cable point of securement 75 to the door to be aligned with a tangential plane 77 of pulley 48 thus, direct force in the direction of arrow 76 is ~~achievement~~ achieved. --

Please replace the paragraph of the specification starting on page 14, line 28 of the application with the following:

-- In an exemplary embodiment, the position of hinge portion 36 in Figure 4 corresponds to a first position of a fork bolt 78 or other equivalent member of a latch mechanism 80 (Figures 1, 8A and 8B) ~~being about to move~~ just prior to moving into a ~~secondary~~ second position for

engaging a striker 81 or other equivalent member disposed within the frame of the slide door opening. It is noted that the fork bolt and the latching mechanism illustrated in Figures 8A and 8B is provided as a non-limiting example and numerous other types of latching mechanisms are contemplated to be used in accordance with exemplary embodiment of the present invention. --

Please replace the paragraph of the specification starting on page 17, line 22 of the application with the following:

-- By connecting cable 39 directly to the vehicle door or cable connector 35 the overall length of cable 39 is larger than if the cable was connected to the first hinge portion 32. Accordingly, drum [[40]] 41 in one exemplary embodiment is configured to have the profile or configuration illustrated in Figure 6; here cable drum [[40]] 41 has an upper drum portion 82 having a larger diameter portion 83 and a smaller diameter portion 85 and a lower drum portion 84 having a larger diameter portion 87 and a smaller diameter portion 89. Accordingly, cable 39 is secured to the larger diameter portion of the lower drum portion 84 wherein cable 39 wraps onto the smaller diameter portion during closing of the door when the smaller diameter portion causes an increased force to be applied to the cable. –

Please replace the abstract of the disclosure starting on page 26, line 5 of the application with the following:

-- A hinge assembly for coupling a sliding door of a vehicle to a drive unit for sliding the sliding door from an open position to a closed position, the drive unit causing the hinge assembly to slide within a guide track as the door moves between the open position and the closed position, the hinge assembly comprising: a first hinge portion; a second hinge portion, the first hinge portion being pivotally secured to the second hinge portion; a cable attachment being secured to the second hinge portion; and a guide surface disposed on a surface of the first hinge portion, the guide surface being configured to make contact with a portion of a cable having an end secured to the cable attachment when the second hinge portion is in a first orientation with respect to the position of the first hinge portion ~~position~~ and the cable no longer makes contact with the guide surface as the second hinge portion moves from the first orientation to a second orientation with respect to the first hinge portion. --